

HOUSE RESOLUTION 94

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Willa Augustine Goodwyn Todd of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Willa Augustine Goodwyn Todd; and

WHEREAS, Willa Todd was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Memphis on February 1, 1952, Willa Goodwyn Todd was the only child of the late Willie John Goodwyn and the late Forrestine House Goodwyn; and

WHEREAS, educated in the Memphis school system, Mrs. Todd attended Weaver Elementary School and graduated from Mitchell Road High School in 1970; she continued her education at Tennessee State University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications in 1975; and

WHEREAS, Willa Todd served with acumen and alacrity as a Memphis City Schools teacher, in which position she earned the respect of her colleagues and students alike for the exemplary quality of her work; she also worked as a Memphis Garden Association Community Representative and a cashier at Bally's Casino; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Todd was an active and devout member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church, where as a child, she participated in the Red Circle Sunshine Band, Vacation Bible School, Children's Choir, Sunday School, and Baptist Training Union; at the age of twelve, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized under the leadership of the late Pastor Emeritus Reverend A. C. Jackson. Through the years, she served as a member of the Youth and Young Adult Choir, Mass Choir, Women's Choir, Pastor's Aide Ministry, church yearbook committee, and other religious activities, including serving as the B.T.U. pianist; and

WHEREAS, Willa Todd was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Todd was the proud mother of Floresatine Vania Todd, Ollejantra Je'Willa (Courtney) Todd DeBerry, and Williesha Minnette Todd and the treasured grandmother of Wiljane' Brakeisha Todd, Xavion Buemez Todd, Ciamino DeWayne Todd, Courdarnon AlDeWayne DeBerry, Aliyunah Yvette Todd, and SaMariah Denae Todd; and

WHEREAS, she is lovingly remembered by her sisters-in-law, Minnie Pearl Todd and Wanda K. Roaks; her brothers-in-law, Charles (Betty) Todd, Alfred (Geraldine) Todd, Anthony (Diane) Todd, and Ronald (Shirley) Todd; her loving and supportive aunt Naomi Jackson; her godsister, Karen D. Crump, her godbrother, Minister Roman Stewart; her very special friend, John Baldwin; and a host of cousins, other relatives, and many loving friends; and

WHEREAS, Willa Todd was preceded in death by her husband, Oliver B. Todd, Jr., whom she married in 1981; and

WHEREAS, she leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Willa Augustine Goodwyn Todd, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Todd.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.